Rehabilitation of labourers of closed NTC mills

†1102. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government for the rehabilitation of displaced labourers of the closed units of the NTC;

(b) whether it is a fact that the benefit to be given on voluntary retirement from service to the employees of closed mills is not in consonance with the benefit given to the employees of other organizations;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures beign taken to remove such disparity and solve the problems of the labourers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The Government has offered a liberal Voluntary Retirement Scheme to the workers affected by the closure of unviable mills of NTC. The scheme provided for increasing *ex gratia* payment to the workers by 50% to 100% depending upon date of revision of wages. An amount of Rs. 1608 crore has been spent so far on the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Besides, Department of Public Enterprises has formulated a scheme for counselling, re-training and re-deployment (CRR) of employees of public sector and NTC employees are exposed to such CRR programmes.

(b) and (c) The amount of compensation paid to the employees of the NTC mills under Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) is more attractive than VRS given in general.

(d) Does not arise.

Weight based refund under Duty Drawback Scheme

1103. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have introduced weight based refund under Duty Drawback Scheme instead of per-piece norms;

(b) if so, whether it is not a fact that the industry has incurred a loss to the tune of Rs. 1500 crores due to Government's apathy on the issue; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.